

REF ID: A-0820

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25 April 1958

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

MEMORANDUM FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Congressional Relations for 1958

REFERENCE(S): a. Memorandum to the DCI from IC  
dated 13 January 1958

b. Memorandum to the DCI from Legislative  
Counsel dated 17 March 1958

1. This memorandum is for information only.

2. At the approximate mid-point of the current session of Congress, it seems appropriate to review certain phases of our relationship with the Congress. The activities are considered against the framework of the objectives sought to be accomplished as stated in the Inspector General's memorandum, reference a. above. Mr. Kirkpatrick stated that "the single most important objective in our relations with Congress during this session is to establish a wider knowledge among the members of Congress of our general competence."

3. Mr. Kirkpatrick anticipated that debriefing of Congressmen traveling abroad would further that objective. In reference b. we reported that in the program which had already been set up for this purpose the Agency debriefed 53 Congressmen, most of whom would not otherwise have been in contact with the Agency. It was concluded that the program was well worth while and could be improved upon.

4. I think it pertinent here to set forth the facts concerning CIA briefing of selected committees of the Congress. This has been an unusual period and beginning with the tenure of the present Legislative Counsel there have been eight briefing sessions with various committees, including two appearances before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. Six of these were conducted by the Director, one by the Deputy Director and one by the Assistant Director, CBI. A full listing of these hearings appears as Tab "A." It shows the number of members of each committee and the numbers actually

present. Without deductions for several Congressmen sitting in two different briefings, 75 Congressmen have been exposed to detailed intelligence produced by this Agency bearing a classification of TOP SECRET. Also, the Agency will appear before the CIA Subcommittees of both Senate Appropriations and House Appropriations which would add ten more Congressmen to the list. In addition, there exists the potential that the Agency will be requested to brief the Senate Special Committee on Astronautics and Space which has thirteen members. There is also the possibility that we might be requested to brief the House Foreign Affairs Committee of 32 members. You will recall that prior to the first of the year they had made this request and then withdrew it before we had made any commitments.

S. If it is assumed that we conduct the briefings mentioned above, this would bring the possible total to 130 Congressmen who would have been briefed by the Agency, thus enabling them to make some judgment as to its competence. When we add the 33 Congressmen who were debriefed, we get an approximate total of 160 Congressmen who have had more than a casual contact with this Agency. (This figure of 160 should be reduced by a factor of approximately ten per cent to allow for duplication in the sense that one member may sit on two different committees or an individual who has been debriefed was also a member of a committee receiving a briefing.)

a. We must also consider other contacts not listed above such as the breakfast meeting with Senator Mike Mansfield, the luncheon meeting with Senator Ralph Yarbrough, and individual contacts with Senators Margaret Chase Smith, Henry Dworshak and others.

b. In addition, there have been other occasions for contacts such as the discussions with Representative Walter Judd and Senator John Williams on the [redacted] matter and other contacts by the Legislative Counsel.

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c. There is a continuing flow of requests from the Hill relating to possible employment of individuals. While this receives routine handling, nevertheless it accounts for a considerable volume of work.

d. It would appear that the objective stated by Mr. Kirkpatrick is being substantially met by the actions noted above and probable activities for the rest of the year. Mr. Kirkpatrick had suggested that we set a goal of a Congressman for lunch at least every day. I believe that this is not

necessary and in fact would be difficult of accomplishment. In the first instance, an invitation to luncheon at the Agency, in most cases, would be associated in the Congressman's mind with the opportunity of meeting either the Director or, in his absence, the Acting Director. Obviously this is not feasible. Therefore, I believe we should continue our present practice of selective invitations consistent with your schedule.

7. The other major item for consideration is the proposed briefing of selected Congressmen on AQUATONE [REDACTED] As I understand STATINTL it this matter has been on the agenda for discussion with the President's Committee on two occasions and they have agreed that the briefing of selected Congressmen would be desirable. The briefing itself still appears to be desirable and I would hope that it could be accomplished.

8. This report is not intended as a comprehensive review of our relationship with the Congress but is intended only to provide you with an interim review of the facts to date. No over-all recommendations of a comprehensive nature are embodied. After Congress adjourns for this session and more study has been given to the matter, it is proposed to present to you an over-all report with appropriate recommendations.

(S)

JOHN S. WARNER  
Legislative Counsel

Atta - 3  
Ref. a.  
Ref. b.  
Tab A

Distribution:

0 - OCI  
1 - DDCI  
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